USACE - DWR BDCP 404/10 Coordination Meeting 10/27/11

1. Status reports:

- a. Generally agreed that minutes should be kept at the coordination meetings and circulated.
- b. Jurisdictional Delineation/Functional Assessment: DWR is working on getting a contract in place. A field visit is scheduled for next week but it looks like most fieldwork will be done next year. A few additional DWR biologists will be pulled in to help with level of effort.
 - i. Anticipated draft JD/404(b)(1) report by next Nov (2012), Final would be early 2013.
- c. Federal Agency MOU: the MOU is still with the Sacramento District and needs to go to Corps review at the division and HQ level. Corps operations may have some comments on the MOU before it goes to HQ. A suggestion was made to increase the degree of detail on milestones and checkpoints in MOU. The MOU may go to HQ as soon as Monday afternoon.
- d. Action Item: Cassandra will send comments to Claire and Mike N. Claire will review and provide additional comments.
- e. MOU Checkpoints:
 - i. EPA asks if there could be presentations and further clarification on project purpose and other elements of 404b1 analysis--EPA wants status updates to see if there is progress on the components of the 404 process.
 - ii. Some of the elements such as the basic and overall project purpose have moved forward and there is tacit agreement as to content but this has not been memorialized per the MOU process.
 - iii. EPA requests a meeting on the basic and overall project purpose.
 - iv. Action Item: Cassandra will send out a draft copy prior to next week's meeting for review and discussion.

f. 214 WRDA funding agreement:

- i. It is suggested that the funding agreement needs to be in place more than the specifics need to be ironed out as to funding—the document is flexible enough that additional funding and staff can be added later, once the agreement is executed.
- ii. The Cal. High Speed Rail 214 agreement provides a funding template. Typically the document allows additional funding after execution and first deposit, and has clauses covering sunset, automatic renewal, and agency termination of the agreement.
- iii. If staffing supported by the agreement changes dramatically over the course of the project Corps requires some advance notice of these needs.
- iv. Currently the funding that the water contractors are likely to provide for the WRDA agreement would support initial coordination—increases in funding are possible later if good progress on the BDCP is made.

- v. Nov. 16 is the projected date for signing of the WRDA MOU—this may be ambitious given the 15-day public review period required.
- vi. Action Item: DWR will complete internal review and Cassandra will send draft language to Mike N.

g. EIR/EIS Review schedule:

- i. Action item: Corps—ICF will coordinate with Corps to get a list of names to add to PCE.
- ii. Action Item: Cassandra will send out most recent schedule.
- iii. More coordination with CEQA responsible agencies/NEPA cooperating agencies may be useful on the EIR/EIS.
- iv. EPA wants to know if they can talk to counterpart state agencies that have delegated authority under CWA. EPA will follow up with DWR on this.
- v. Corps comments relating to EIS adequacy for Corps decision points should be flagged in the PCE comment system.